

Medal; editor, Neuropsychiatric Volume, A. E. F. Section (History), The Medical Department of the United States Army in the World War; member, Permanent Inter-Allied Commission for the After-Care of Disabled Soldiers; member, International Jury of Award, Panama-Pacific International Exposition; awarded Presentation Medal, National Institute of Social Sciences. Member, American Medical Association, American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology, American Association for the Advancement of Science, New York Psychiatric Association (president), American Neurological Association, American Psychiatric Association (president), Association of Military Surgeons in the United States, Phi Sigma Kappa. Clubs: Century, Larchmont Yacht, Army and Navy (Washington, D. C.). Author of chapter on "Immigration," in *Modern Treatment of Mental and Nervous Diseases*, 1913; chapter on "Mental Hygiene," *American Year-Book*, 1917-20, and in *Preventive Medicine and Hygiene*, 1916-20, etc. Contributor on psychiatry and mental hygiene to magazines and scientific journals.

OBITUARY: DR. HENRY KOPLIK

Dr. Henry Koplik was born in New York City on October 2, 1859. He died in his 69th year on April 30, 1927, of myocardial insufficiency due to severe disease of the coronary arteries. At the time of his death there was no more distinguished pediatrician in America, nor one more widely known in the world.

His general education was obtained at the College of the City of New York, where he received the degree of A.B. in 1878. His medical studies were carried on at the College of Physicians and Surgeons (Columbia University), from which he was graduated in 1881. A short time after he completed his term of internship at Bellevue Hospital he left for Europe, where he spent one and one-half years in study in Berlin, Prague, and Vienna. Of all the distinguished teachers under whom he studied in these places the one who most influenced him was Professor Alois Epstein, who

was Director of the Foundling Institution of the German University in Prague.

In 1887 he was made Attending Physician to the Good Samaritan Dispensary. At that time the departments of pediatrics and gynecology in that institution were combined. This explains why one of Dr. Koplik's first papers dealt with the value of massage of the uterus and adnexa. During many years of his connection with the Dispensary he also did research work in bacteriology and pathology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons (in the laboratory of Delafield) and at the Carnegie Laboratory. As soon as he saved a little money he maintained in the Dispensary a laboratory devoted to bacteriology and clinical pathology. He rapidly made so extraordinary a reputation that physicians from as far away as San Francisco came to study with him. In fact his international standing was obtained on the basis of his work at the Good Samaritan Dispensary.

In 1889 he established there the first of the now so well-known milk depots (*gouttes de lait*). This was an accomplishment of outstanding importance and significance.

After serving for some years as Adjunct Visiting Physician to the Children's Ward at Mount Sinai Hospital, he worked there for twenty-five years as Attending Pediatrician, and then became Consulting Pediatrician. While connected with that institution he carried on some of his later clinical studies, and put into effect his ideas on ward hygiene.

For a time he was Attending Physician to St. John's Guild. He was also consultant to the Hebrew Orphan Asylum, the Hospital for Deformities and the Jewish Maternity Hospital.

Dr. Koplik was one of the founders of the American Pediatric Society, and at one time President. He was a member of the Association of American Physicians and an honorary member of medical societies in Vienna and Budapest. A source of great gratification to him was his appointment as a member of the Permanent Commission of the International Association of Child Welfare and *gouttes de lait*.

His medical activities were greatly varied. He was not only interested in the clinic but also in pathologic and bacteriologic studies. The fundamental subjects of hygiene and child welfare occupied much of his thought. As a clinician he was a sharp

observer and an accurate recorder of his investigations. His ability to pick up a new differential diagnostic feature of a condition was at times quite uncanny. In his work in bacteriology (which engrossed him more than pathology) he was original and painstaking.

The publications made by him extended over a period of thirty-six years, 1887–1923. Some of the main subjects that occupied his attention were the etiology of empyema, uro-genital blenorrea and the prevention of its spread in institutions, cerebrospinal meningitis (especially posterior basic meningitis), poliomyelitis (particularly cerebral involvement), diphtheria, sporadic cretinism, Mongolian idiocy, the prevention of the spread of respiratory and intestinal infections in wards, and the sterilization and pasteurization of milk. Other subjects to which he made contributions include streptococcus osteomyelitis, retropharyngeal abscess, pyloric spasm and congenital hypertrophic stenosis of the pylorus, chronic arthritis, pneumonia, typhoid fever and summer diarrheas.

Except for the subject of diphtheria no attempt will be made here to describe these contributions. The studies of diphtheria that were particularly important were those dealing with the cases of that disease which resemble catarrhal angina and lacunar tonsillitis. The recommendations of Dr. Koplik for the rapid bacteriological diagnosis of diphtheria are most valuable, as can be attested by the long experience of a number of observers, including the writer.

In 1897 he described a bacillus in pertussis which he had long before seen, and now had succeeded in cultivating. He stated that it resembled an organism described by Afanassjew. At that time differential immunologic methods were not available, and for that reason a strict comparison with the organism of Bordet-Gengou cannot now be drawn. The bacillus of Koplik seems, however, to conform to that of Bordet and Gengou.

In 1896 he published a paper entitled "The Diagnosis of the Invasion of Measles from a Study of the Buccal Mucous Membrane." This was followed in 1898 by a second paper on the same subject. The rapidity with which this method, so valuable from a diagnostic and epidemiologic standpoint, was accepted was remarkable. The full story of its speedy adoption will be given at

another time. While it was later pointed out that Flindt in Denmark, and Filatoff in Russia, had made observations similar to that of Dr. Koplik, the credit for its independent discovery and its popularization were freely given to him, and the sign at once named after him. The "Koplik Spots" made him justly famous the world over.

His book, "Diseases of Infancy and Childhood," appeared in 1902. It went through four editions, the last appearing in 1918. He dedicated it to his preceptors, Dr. Francis Delafield, the great clinician and pathologist, and Dr. Matthew D. Mann, who became the distinguished Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the University of Buffalo, and who also came so prominently into the public eye because of his being called in to take care of President McKinley when he was shot. This volume of Dr. Koplik's contained large numbers of observations that he had not published in separate papers. Like all his publications the book is written in a careful, clear and concise way.

Personally Dr. Koplik was a man of distinguished appearance and dignified bearing. Whenever he discussed a presentation at a meeting, all eyes were at once turned to him, and all realized that they would hear a carefully-worded and authoritatively expressed statement based upon his own experience and his own views. In more intimate contacts one was impressed and attracted by his sparkling mind, his great knowledge and his goodly store of anecdotes and humorous stories. He was himself the kind of man concerning whom numerous anecdotes spring up. Some of these will no doubt be preserved.

It was many years before he developed practice and consulting work. His early career was a difficult one, but he had always the definite feeling that he would become a world figure in pediatrics. He was one of the first American practitioners to take up pathology and bacteriology, just as the celebrated Meltzer did extraordinary work in physiology while engaged in active family practice. Because of his interest in scientific pursuits, he early attracted the attention, admiration and support of such men as Adami, Jacobi, Osler and Welch. In the early part of his career he was very close to Jacobi. In fact, the latter entrusted to him much of the preparatory work for his classical monograph on diseases of the thymus.

It cannot be said that Dr. Koplik developed a school. He did, however, advise many men in their studies. A number of young physicians, including the writer, were inducted into the laboratory side of medicine by this remarkable man.

E. LIBMAN

DEATH NOTICES

EDWARD WALLACE LEE, M.D., 19 Center Street, Randolph, New York; graduated in medicine from the University of Michigan in 1882; elected a Fellow of the Academy, January 4, 1918; died, September 8, 1927. Dr. Lee was a Fellow of the American Medical Association and Consulting Surgeon to the Polyclinic and Broad Street Hospitals.

JACOB FUHS, M.D., 848 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, New York; graduated in medicine from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, in 1875; elected a Fellow of the Academy, April 5, 1888; died, September 18, 1927. Dr. Fuhs was a Fellow of the American Medical Association, a member of the Pathological Society, the Neurological Society, the Gastro-Enterological Society, and Consulting Physician to St. Mary's, Jamaica, Beth Deacon, Long Island College, Wyckoff Heights, St. Catherine's and the Jewish and Israel-Zion Hospitals.

EDWARD FLETCHER BRUSH, M.D., 320 South Fifth Avenue, Mount Vernon, N. Y.; graduated in medicine from Bellevue Hospital Medical College in 1875; elected a Fellow of the Academy, February 5, 1880; died, October 3, 1927.

FRANK SHERMAN MEARA, A.B., Ph.D., M.D., 400 West End Avenue, New York City; graduated in medicine from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, in 1895; elected a Fellow of the Academy, October 6, 1904; died, October 10, 1927. Dr. Meara was Professor of Clinical Medicine, Cornell University Medical College; a Fellow of the American Medical Association, and a member of the Society of Alumni of St. Luke's Hospital. He was Consulting Physician to the Bellevue, Lawrence, Bronxville, Mt. Vernon, Mountainside, Montclair and